

# **Media Release**

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# SEAVEY LOOP WATER CUSTOMERS ENCOURAGED TO COMMENT TO THE PUC ABOUT PROPOSED RATE INCREASE

**SALEM,** Ore. – The Oregon Public Utility Commission (PUC) is hosting a virtual public comment hearing on Thursday, June 8, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. PDT. The event provides Seavey Loop Water Company customers an opportunity to comment on the impacts of the utility's proposed increase to water rates.

Seavey Loop Water Company requests to increase rates by just under 77 percent, noting an increase in operating costs and recent capital investments to improve water quality, system reliability, and efficiency as the reasons for the request. This would impact customer rates differently depending on water usage. For an average residential customer, a current monthly bill is about \$56.99. With the proposed increase, an average bill would increase to about \$97.16 per month.

Seavey Loop Water Company's general rate change request will be fully investigated on behalf of water customers. This public comment hearing is part of that investigation, which will conclude when the Commissioners rule on the request. If approved, the new rates could go into effect January 1, 2024.

#### **Ways to Comment**

#### Comment via Zoom or phone on June 8

Seavey Loop Water customers and other interested persons may participate in the public comment hearing to provide verbal comments.

When: Thursday, June 8, 2023, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. PDT

- View the meeting notice to link to the Zoom session at <a href="https://bit.ly/3Mox7ec">https://bit.ly/3Mox7ec</a>
- Participate by phone at 669-254-5252 (Meeting ID: 160 263 4491; Passcode: 4768227053)

### Submit comments directly to the PUC by November 7, 2023:

- email PUC.PublicComments@puc.oregon.gov
- Call 503-378-6600 or 800-522-2404 (all relay calls accepted)
- Mail comments to Oregon Public Utility Commission, Attn: AHD UW 196, PO Box 1088, Salem, OR 97308-1088

-more-

Docket No.: UW 196

Date: June 5, 2023

## **Stay Informed**

To stay informed throughout this rate case process, individuals may request to be added to the distribution list to receive publicly available documents. Submit requests by email to <a href="mailto:puc.hearings@puc.oregon.gov">puc.oregon.gov</a> or by calling 503-378-6678. Please specify <a href="mailto:Docket No. UW 196">Docket No. UW 196</a> in the request.

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The Oregon Public Utility Commission (PUC) regulates customer rates and services of the state's investor-owned electric and natural gas utilities, including Portland General Electric, Idaho Power, Pacific Power, Avista, Cascade Natural, and NW Natural. The PUC also regulates landline telephone providers and select water companies. The PUC's mission is to ensure Oregonians have access to safe, reliable, and fairly priced utility services that advance state policy and promote the public interest. We use an inclusive process to evaluate differing viewpoints and visions of the public interest and arrive at balanced, well-reasoned, independent decisions supported by fact and law. For more information about the PUC, visit oregon.gov/puc.

Docket No.: UW 196